

NO 39-NOV.

Romantic Adventures

10¢

I---I CAN'T GO
THROUGH WITH IT!

Why
DID ELIZABETH
FLEE FROM THE ALTAR?
AND HOW DID DAN CUPID
MEND HER BROKEN HEART
IN A ROLICKING ROMANCE
SUCH AS YOU'VE NEVER
KNOWN? YOU'LL FIND THE
TINGLING ANSWERS IN
"IT HAPPENED ONE
SPRING"---AND YOU'LL
NEVER FOR-
GET THEM!





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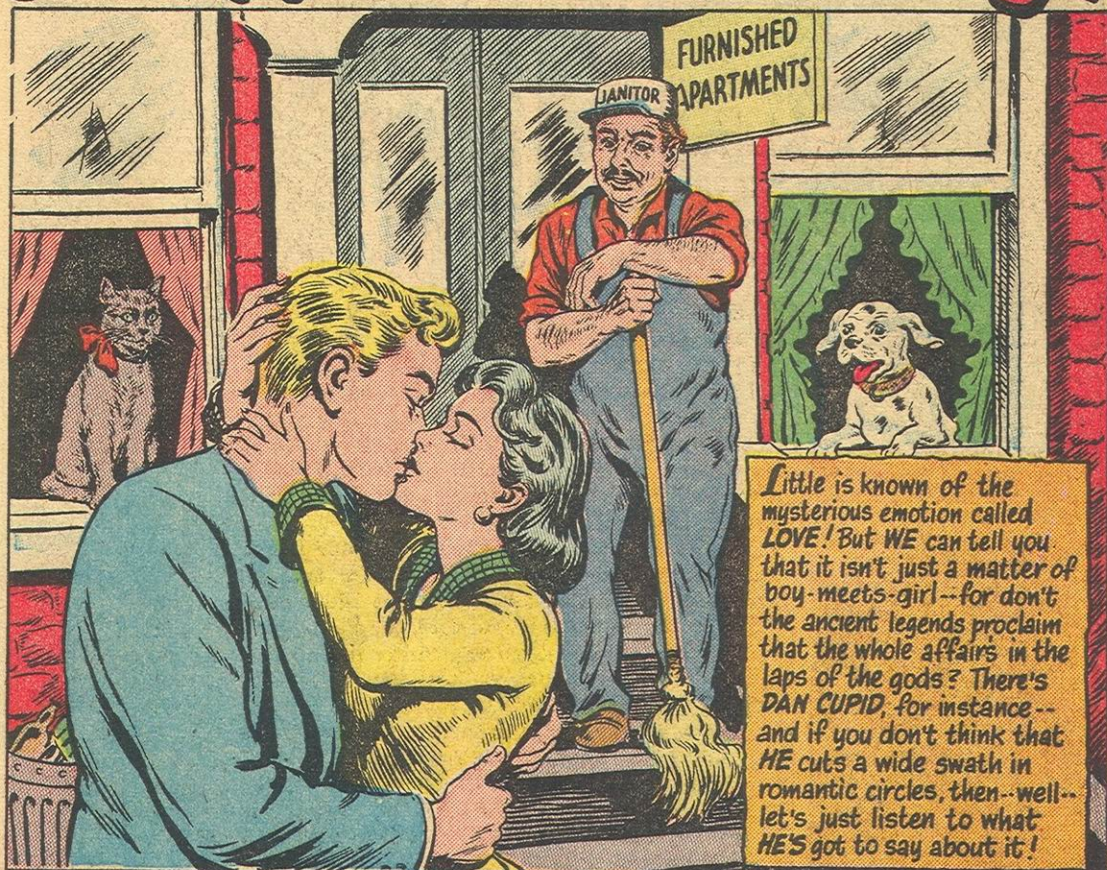
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It Happened One Spring



Little is known of the mysterious emotion called **LOVE!** But **WE** can tell you that it isn't just a matter of boy-meets-girl--for don't the ancient legends proclaim that the whole affairs in the laps of the gods? There's **DAN CUPID**, for instance--and if you don't think that **HE** cuts a wide swath in romantic circles, then--well--let's just listen to what **HE'S** got to say about it!

HI, READER! GLAD YOU DROPPED IN AT THE ELIZABETH HENDRICKS WEDDING-- SEEING AS HOW I ARRANGED IT ALL!

AND A GOOD JOB, I'D SAY!

DEARLY BELOVED, WE ARE GATHERED HERE--

--AND DO YOU, ELIZABETH, TAKE THIS MAN, HORACE, TO BE YOUR LAWFUL WEDDED HUSBAND?

HAR-RUMPH!

OH, NO!
NOT AGAIN!

I--I KNEW IF HE **HARUMPHED** ONCE MORE, I COULDN'T **S-STAND IT!**



IMAGINE MY EMBARRASSMENT-- AFTER I'D
ARRANGED THINGS SO NICELY, TOO!

I DON'T CARE **HOW** GOOD A MATCH IT WOULD
HAVE BEEN -- THAT'S THE TWELFTH TIME IN ONE
DAY HE MADE THAT AWFUL NOISE! AND I'M
NOT GOING TO LIVE WITH IT!

GOODBYE -- I'LL WRITE YOU! I CAN'T STAY
IN TOWN ANYMORE, SO **SWEET STUFF**
AND I ARE GOING TO NEW YORK!

ROMANCE REPORT
NAME OF PARTY IN LOVE
Elizabeth Handicks
DISPOSITION
Happy Marriage
Snafu

WELL, I HADN'T DONE
SO GOOD **THAT TIME**,
AND I SURE NEEDED TO
MAKE UP FOR IT! I
THOUGHT I HAD--IT WAS
ON MY VERY NEXT CASE...

**SWEETHEART! TOM,
DARLING!**

WE'LL HAVE A
QUIET LITTLE
WEDDING AND
THEN SLIP AWAY
FOR A FISHING
TRIP-- JUST THE
TWO OF US
AND OLD
BUM
HERE!

RIDICULOUS!
A **LARGE**
WEDDING, AND
A HONEYMOON
IN EUROPE!
AND YOU'RE
TO GET RID OF
THAT DISREPUTABLE
MONGREL
IMMEDIATELY!

IS **THAT** SO!
WELL, DON'T
THINK YOU'RE
GOING TO RUN
MY LIFE, **HEPZIBAH!**
WITH ME, IT'S **LOVE**
ME, LOVE MY
DOG-- SEE?

IF THAT'S THE
WAY YOU FEEL
ABOUT IT,
TOM **LESLIE**,
OUR
ENGAGE-
MENT'S
OFF!

"DIVORCED!" "WALKED OUT!"
"ENGAGEMENT BROKEN!"
"LOVERS' QUARREL!"--

WHAT SORT OF
REPORTS ARE
THESE, **CUPID?** WHAT'S
BEEN **HAPPENING**
TO YOU LATELY?

GOLLY,
JOVE--
IT'S NOT LIKE I
HAVEN'T BEEN
TRYING! JUST
BAD LUCK, I GUESS!

A PLEASURE! A
PLEASURE!

MAYBE I
SHOULD HAVE
GIVEN UP--
BECAUSE I
WAS ON A
LOSING STREAK!
THE REPORTS
I WAS
HANDING
IN TO JOVE,
MY SUPERIOR,
SHOWED IT!
THAT'S WHY
I WAS
CALLED UP
ON THE CARPET--
UP ON OLYMPUS,
HEAD-
QUARTERS OF
THE GODS...

ROMANCE REPORT
NAME OF PARTY IN LOVE
Tom Leslie
DISPOSITION
Snafu



ALIBIS! YOU'VE GOT **ONE WEEK** TO PROVE YOU HAVEN'T LOST YOUR GRIP--AND I'M PUTTING YOU TO THE **ACID TEST!** YOU'VE GOT TO FIND TWO PEOPLE WHO **HATE** EACH OTHER--AND CHANGE THAT **HATRED TO PURE, LASTING LOVE!**

OH-HHH-- WHAT A GUY HAS TO GO THROUGH TO KEEP HIS JOB NOWADAYS!

HOW TO CREATE ROMANCE OUT OF HATE--WHEN NOBODY SEEMED TO HATE EACH OTHER & FOR IT WAS SPRINGTIME--AND EVERYWHERE I LOOKED...

EVERYBODY PICKS NOW TO GET PALS--WALSY! WHAT AM I GONNA DO?



I WAS WALKING THE STREET, TRYING TO FIGURE IT ALL OUT, WHEN--I SPOTTED A FAMILIAR FACE!

I TURNED TO RUN--ONLY TO REMAIN FROZEN IN MY TRACKS! FOR THERE, COMING TOWARD ME, WAS MORE TROUBLE!

BUT NOBODY WAS LOOKING AT ME! IT SEEMED THAT BUM, THE DOG, HAD SPOTTED SWEET STUFF, THE CAT--AND...

GOOD MORNING, MR. WOLINSKI!

SO?

OH-OH-- IT'S THAT ELIZABETH GIRL! I'D BETTER GET OUT OF HERE FAST--- HASN'T SHE CAUSED ME ENOUGH TROUBLE?

FURNISHED APARTMENTS



GULP! THEY'VE GOT ME HEMMED IN!

HELP! MEOWR!

YIFE!



S-SOMEBODY STOP THEM!

I'LL DO IT, MISS!

BAM

KER-POW!

RR-ROWW!



WELL, BY THE TIME TOM HAD CAUGHT BUM--AND ELIZABETH HAD BAGGED SWEET STUFF...

M-MY LOVELY APARTMENT-- JUST LOOK AT IT!

I'LL PAY FOR ANY DAMAGE, MISS HENDRICKS! I'M TOM LESLIE--WE LIVE RIGHT ACROSS THE HALL FROM YOU, ME AND MY DOG--





DOG? YOU MEAN MONSTER! AN UGLY THING LIKE THAT ISN'T SAFE AT LARGE-- SOMEBODY OUGHT TO SHOOT HIM!

WHY, YOU-- YOU--



I'LL HAVE YOU KNOW THAT BUM'S MY PAL, SEE-- AND ANYBODY THAT'D KEEP A MANGEY CAT FOR A PET IS NOTHING MORE THAN A STUPID, OPINIONATED OLD MAID! AND YOU'RE UGLIER THAN HE IS, TOO!

YOU... YOU... GET OUT OF HERE! I HATE YOU!



WELL, I KNEW THAT THEY'D DO FOR MY SUBJECTS -- THEY SURE HATED EACH OTHER ENOUGH TO START WITH! AND I HAD MY WORK CUT OUT FOR ME IF EVER I WAS GOING TO BRING THEM TOGETHER! I'D HAVE TO SPEND A LOT OF TIME WITH THEM IN THE NEXT WEEK-- WHICH WASN'T QUITE CONVENIENT IN MY PRESENT GUISE! AS I RETIRED TO THE BASEMENT TO THINK...

HMMM...MR. WOLINSKI, THE JANITOR! LIFE'S AWFULLY DULL FOR HIM! I'M SURE HE WOULDN'T MIND IF I-- BORROWED HIS BODY!

BEING A GOD, IT WASN'T TOO MUCH TROUBLE...

THIS WAY I'LL BE ABLE TO WATCH 'EM AND BE JOHNNY-ON-THE-SPOT ALL THE TIME! I CAN GET PLACES!



HO-HUM! ONE THING NICE ABOUT BEING MR. WOLINSKI-- I NEVER DID LIKE CUPID'S BABY FAT! GOOD THING MY BOW AND ARROWS ARE INVISIBLE! NOW TO PROCEED WITH CASE 37968-W--ELIZABETH HENDRICKS AND TOM LESLIE!



WITH ONLY A WEEK TO WORK IN, THERE WASN'T MUCH TIME! SO I GOT TO WORK IMMEDIATELY, TRYING ALL MY CUSTOMARY SPRINGTIME TRICKS! I THREW THEM TOGETHER AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY...

WHY DO I ALWAYS SEEM TO BE RUNNING INTO YOU, MR. LESLIE? I'M SURE IT CAN'T BE ACCIDENTAL-- NOT ON YOUR PART, ANYWAY!

DON'T FLATTER YOURSELF, MISS HENDRICKS -- YOU'RE THE LAST PERSON I'D WANT TO RUN INTO! AND DON'T PRETEND IT HASN'T BEEN YOUR FAULT, EITHER!

SO FAR I HADN'T GOTTEN PLACES! BUT I WASN'T LICKED THAT EASILY--NOT WHEN I HAD AN ACE UP MY SLEEVE!

I'VE BROKEN THE LOVE POINT OFF THE ARROW!--IT'LL HAVE THE OPPOSITE EFFECT NOW! AND IF THIS WORKS OUT AS I'VE PLANNED...





I DIDN'T
HURT
SWEET STUFF
-- JUST GOT
HER CRAZY
MAD
LOOKING
AROUND
FOR THE
GUILTY
PARTY SHE
SPIED BUM
--AND THIS
TIME,
SHE WASN'T
TAKING
ANY
NONSENSE!



AND WHAT HAPPENED
THEN SHOULDN'T
HAPPEN TO A DOG

HOLY SMOKE!
WHAT GOES
ON?



OH-HHH! HONEST MR.
LESLIE, I DIDN'T PUT MY
CAT UP TO THIS!

YOU NEEDN'T THINK
I BELIEVE ANYTHING
YOU -- BELIEVE
ANYTHING --

PSST!
GRR-ROW!
BAM!



HAW-HAW-HAW! EXCUSE ME
FOR LAUGHING, BUT
T-TELL ME -- DID YOU EVER
SEE ANYTHING
LIKE THAT
IN YOUR
LIFE?



OH, N-NO -- THAT'S
RIDICULOUS!
HA-HA!

AFTER THIS, I
THINK WE
OUGHT TO BURY
THE HATCHET!
LET'S SHAKE AND
MAKE UP --
WHAT DO YOU
SAY?



JANIT

SO FAR, SO
GOOD! THEY'RE
FRIENDS NOW!
THE REST IS UP
TO NATURE
AND SPRING-
TIME!

IT WAS THE
THIRD DAY
OF THE WEEK
I'D BEEN
GRANTED
AND GLORY
BE, IT SEEMED
TO BE
WORKING!



IT'S SO LOVELY
THAT WE DECIDED
TO SPEND THE
DAY TOGETHER.
MR. WOLINSKI!

DON'T HAVE TO
TELL YOU TO
HAVE A GOOD
TIME, I RECKON!
I KNOW YOU
WILL

THEY HAD A WONDERFUL TIME THAT DAY-- AND THE NEXT AND THE NEXT! AND ALL THE WHILE, THEY WERE DRIFTING CLOSER-- DISCOVERING NEW AND MAGICAL THINGS ABOUT EACH OTHER--

I LIKE THE WAY YOU FELL IN WITH THIS BIKE-RIDING PLAN! YOU WOULDN'T TRY FORCING A MAN TO DO ANYTHING HE DIDN'T WANT, I'LL BET!

HAVING A GOOD TIME, KID?

WHO WOULDN'T BE-- WITH ONE GUY WHO ISN'T A STUFFED SHIRT!

YOU FOLLOW GORGEOUSLY! I'D SAY WE GO VERY WELL TOGETHER!

EXACTLY WHAT I WAS THINKING!



WELL, FROM THERE ON, IT WASN'T MUCH OF A HOP TO THIS! IT WAS THE EVENING OF THE FIFTH DAY--

IT'S BEEN SWELL GETTING TO KNOW YOU, LIZ! YOU SEE, I HAD TO BE SURE THAT THIS WASN'T JUST A REBOUND DEAL FOR ME-- BUT NOW I THINK I KNOW THE ANSWER!

IT--IT'S NOT A REBOUND FOR ME EITHER-- SO LET ME SAY IT!



I-LOVE-YOU!

EXACTLY-- MY SENTIMENTS ABOUT YOU!



YESSIR-- IT LOOKED AS IF I'D DONE THE JOB RIGHT THIS TIME, AND ASSURED MY JOB FOR AT LEAST A CENTURY! I WANTED TO BE SURE BEFORE SUBMITTING MY REPORT, HOWEVER-- EVEN THOUGH THERE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE ANY DOUBT ABOUT THE WAY THINGS WERE GOING--

WILL YOU ALWAYS BE MY SUGAR?

AS LONG AS YOU'RE MY SPICE!

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED-- PRACTICALLY!

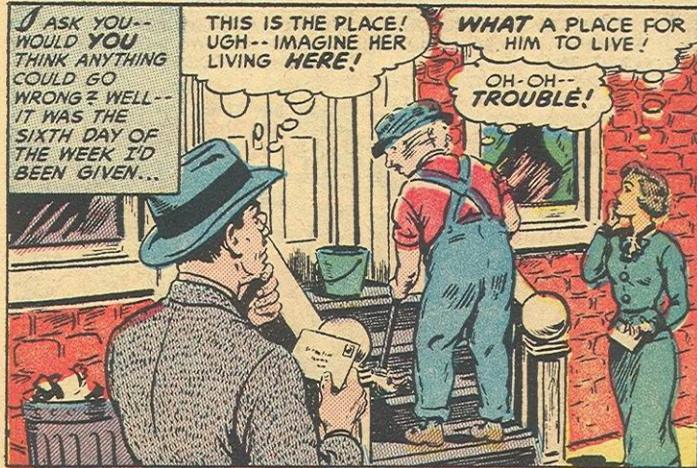


AND ELIZABETH SLEPT A HAPPY SLEEP, DREAMING ABOUT YOU- KNOW- WHO--



--WHICH WAS A FAIR ENOUGH EXCHANGE, BECAUSE HIS DREAMS HAD HER FOR A TENANT!





WAS IT ANY WONDER I WAS DISGUSTED WITH MYSELF? I TOOK THOSE ARROWS OF MINE AND HURLED THEM AWAY IN RAGE...

I CAN'T UNDO THAT HARM IN THE ONE DAY I'VE GOT LEFT! THAT MEANS I'VE LOST MY JOB... AND I WON'T BE NEEDING THESE AGAIN!



I DIDN'T KNOW IT AT THE TIME, BUT I GUESS AN ARROW MUST HAVE STRUCK A SPARK THAT SMOLDERED UNSEEN THROUGH THE NIGHT... THEN BURST INTO FLAME! NOBODY KNEW IT... UNTIL...



SWEET STUFF MEANT WELL, BUT NOBODY HEARD... EXCEPT BUM! LUCKILY, HIS VOICE WAS LOUD ENOUGH TO WAKE THE DEAD!



BUT IT LOOKED AS IF THE TWO FIRST FLOOR TENANTS WERE OUT OF LUCK! ALREADY THE FIRE HAD GAINED FRIGHTENING HEADWAY...



ELIZABETH! SHE'S-- TRAPPED IN THERE...

MEANWHILE, EVERYONE ELSE IN THE HOUSE HAD GOTTEN OUT OKAY VIA THE FIRE ESCAPES-- AND BEING A GOD, I COULDN'T BE HURT...



IT'S-- YOU--

WHO'D YOU EXPECT?

WE-- MADE IT!

THERE COME THE LAST TWO! EVERYBODY'S SAFE NOW!



SO YOU SAVED ME--A FINE CHANCE FOR A GRANDSTAND PLAY! BUT IT CAN'T COVER UP YOUR FAITHFULNESS, AND I'LL NEVER FORGIVE YOU FOR IT! B-BESIDES, HOW CAN I THINK OF ANYTHING WITH P-POOR **SWEET STUFF** IN THERE!

HOW ABOUT YOUR **OWN** FAITHFULNESS -- AND ANYWAY, WHO CARES ABOUT **SWEET STUFF**? HOW ABOUT POOR **BUM**-- HE NEVER GOT OUT EITHER!



THAT DID IT! SOMETHING WITHIN THEM SEEMED TO SNAP THEN! SUDDENLY THEY SAW THINGS IN THEIR RIGHT PERSPECTIVE, SAW THEMSELVES THROUGH NEW EYES!

I-I NEVER THOUGHT HOW THINGS MUST HAVE LOOKED TO YOU, TOM -- HORACE KISSING ME AND ALL THAT! B-BUT IT WASN'T MY FAULT-- I DIDN'T WANT HIM TO...

I--I GUESS I SHOULDN'T HAVE CONDEMNED YOU -- HEPZIBAH MADE THINGS LOOK PRETTY BAD FOR **ME** TOO! BUT--BUT IT'S ONLY YOU I LOVE!

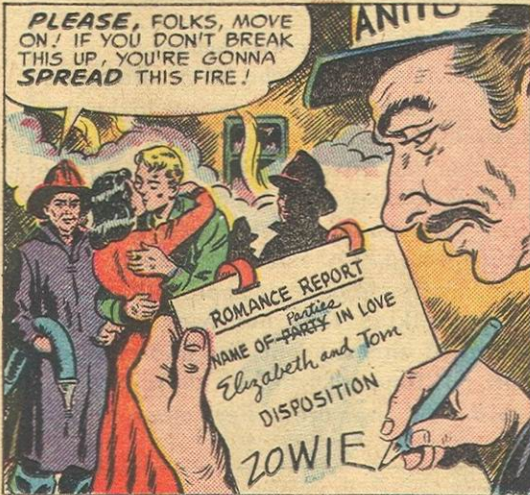


YOU KNOW, SOMETIMES I THINK YOU MORTALS ARE LUCKY-- WHEN YOU CAN DO LOVELY THINGS LIKE **THIS!**...

YESSIR! LOOKS LIKE I'M GONNA KEEP MY **CUPID** JOB **PERMANENTLY!**



PLEASE, FOLKS, MOVE ON! IF YOU DON'T BREAK THIS UP, YOU'RE GONNA **SPREAD** THIS FIRE!



WELL, FOLKS, THAT'S THE WAY IT ALL HAPPENED! MATTER OF FACT, I FOUND THINGS SO SUCCESSFUL IN MR. WOLINSKI'S BODY THAT I DECIDED NOT TO GIVE IT UP! THAT'S WHY, TO THIS VERY DAY, WHEN SPRING SMILES UPON NEW YORK AND YOUNG MEN'S FANCIES TURN LIGHTLY, YOU'RE LIKELY TO SEE **THIS** HAPPENING IN ANY PARK...



THE END

AND YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL, TOO--BECAUSE MR. WOLINSKI WILL GET **YOU** IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT.

Happy Birthday, DARLING!

THE SPECIAL GLOW that comes with having a birthday was in Jane's eyes, making them seem larger, bluer and more luminous than ever. "That was Frank," she told her mother, as she replaced the telephone receiver, "asking whether he could come over!"

"I hope you said he could!" Jane's mother sounded a bit anxious, as though something were worrying her. It came out in a nervous confession. "I...I told him today was your birthday!"

"Mother, honestly!" In dismay, Jane started the old argument, but wisely gave it up. It was useless, for her mother insisted on viewing Frank through the rosy mist of his father's money. Everything Frank did or said was wonderful. His car was the latest, most expensive model. His clothes, made to order, were perfection. "If she could marry him herself, she would!" Jane thought. "But she can't, so she's pinning her hopes on me!"

Jane's dismay was deeper than it appeared, for she too had asked someone over. Ned. And she hadn't mentioned a word about her birthday! It was sure to turn into an embarrassing evening, perhaps even unpleasant.

"There's the door. I'll get it!" Jane's mother, smoothing her hair, was already smiling the gracious smile she reserved for Frank when she opened the door to...Ned!

"Oh. Well, hello! Won't you... come in?"

The luminous look was back in Jane's eyes as she gave Ned both her hands, responding to the pressure of his with a quickened heartbeat. With the right atmosphere, Ned might have

proposed that very night! But that ray of hope was gone, now that...the doorbell sounded again!

This time, mother's voice positively dripped hospitality. "Frank! What a lovely package! Those ribbons!"

A study in elegance, Frank handed a small, gift-wrapped box to Jane, throwing a curt greeting to Ned in passing. "Happy birthday, doll," Frank said.

"Birthday?" The puzzlement in Ned's face gave way to unhappiness as he met Frank's smug, triumphant glance. "I...I didn't know, Jane."

"Aren't you going to open the package?" Jane's mother was jubilant.

"Wait a minute, mother." Jane looked steadily at Ned and her heart was in her eyes. "It doesn't matter, Ned," she said gently.

Then Ned was looking at her and the message he read in her face gave him courage. "I...I couldn't have competed with Frank's present, anyhow," he said. "You see, all I have to offer is..."

His arms went around Jane as he whispered in her ear. Then, she turned her face to his, offering her lips as freely as she had given her heart.

"Jane!" Mother was aghast.

"It...it's a watch...with diamonds..." Frank was still trying to be the highest bidder.

From the circle of Ned's arms, Jane spoke contentedly, happily. "Thank you very much, Frank, but I'm afraid that I couldn't possibly accept it. You see, my fiance doesn't approve!"

Ned's kiss took her back into the world of enchantment she had yearned for. "Happy birthday, darling," he said as he drew her close in his arms.

It's true that other girls often ENVIED me! Called pretty, well-known in a glamorous profession -- what more could I want? Well, to put it bluntly --

A Man I Could Love!



*A TREMENDOUS SUCCESS AS A FEATURE WRITER FOR **PROFILE**, THE FAMOUS MAGAZINE--I WAS WELL AWARE OF MY FAILURE AS A WOMAN!*

YOUR NEXT JOB IS TO DO A STORY ON PROFESSOR CALVIN C. WEMBLEY!

I'VE HAD NOTHING BUT THESE STODGY ASSIGNMENTS FOR YEARS! WHY CAN'T I EVER INTERVIEW AN ATHLETE OR A MOVIE STAR?



GIVE ME A BREAK, BOSS--ASSIGN ME TO SOMEBODY WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTING IN A PERSONAL WAY!

DO YOUR MAN-HUNTING AFTER HOURS, LAURA--AND GET GOING!



SOON AFTERWARDS--

MAKE YOURSELF AT HOME, MISS! THE PROFESSOR IS BUSY AT THE MOMENT AND ASKS THAT YOU WAIT!

BOY, WON'T **THIS** JOB BE FASCINATING--THE JOINT LOOKS LIKE A MUSEUM!



I HOPE THE PROF WON'T MIND MY POKING AROUND IN HIS LAB! --OHH! WHAT A CUTE DOG! DID THE MEAN OLD PROFESSOR PUT SNOOKUMS IN A CAGE?



HERE, BOY-- COME TO...! OHH-HH! YOU BIT ME!

ARF!



IT WAS ONLY A SCRATCH, FORTUNATELY! AS I WANDERED INTO THE GARDEN--



HMM, THAT MUST BE THE HANDYMAN! BOY, HE'S HANDSOME!

I'M LAURA MARCH OF PROFILE-- AND I'M DOING A STORY ON PROFESSOR WEMBLEY! CAN YOU TELL ME ANYTHING OF INTEREST ABOUT THE OLD FOGEY?



I KIN FIGGER WHAT YOU'RE UP AGAINST, MAAM-- AND I SHORE FEEL SORRY! THE PROF'S AWFUL QUIET, BUT COME TO THINK OF IT-- SOME THINGS ABOUT HIM ARE MIGHTY PECULIAR!



YES, YES-- GO ON.

WELL, MAAM-- HE'S POWERFUL PARTIAL TO PRETTY WOMEN AND IMPULSIVE! WHY IF HE SAW A GAL LIKE YOU, LIKE AS NOT HE MIGHT JUST GRAB HER LIKE THIS--



HUH?

AND KISS HER!



FOR A MOMENT, HIS POWERFUL ARMS TOOK MY BREATH AWAY! I SHOULD HAVE BEEN ANGRY... BUT I WASN'T!



OH, PROFESSOR, WEMBLEY!

SEE WHAT I MEAN, MA'AM?

THEN YOU'RE--? WHY, OF ALL THE APPALLING NERVE!



I TOLD YOU I WAS-- IMPULSIVE!

SOMEHOW, MY INDIGNATION QUICKLY GAVE WAY TO SOMETHING I'D NEVER EXPERIENCED BEFORE--A SURGE OF STRANGE ANTICIPATION AND EXCITEMENT!



PEOPLE OFTEN REFUSE TO BELIEVE I'M A SCIENTIST! AND YOUR ATTITUDE MADE ME WANT TO TEACH YOU A LESSON! AM I FORGIVEN?

WELL--I-I GUESS I DESERVED IT!

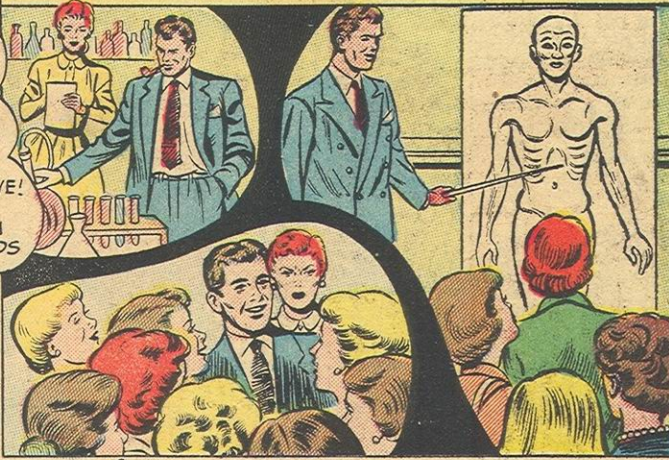
IN SPORT JACKET AND SLACKS, I FOUND HIM EVEN MORE ATTRACTIVE--



TO GIVE OUR READERS AN IDEA OF A SCIENTIST'S LIFE, I'LL HAVE TO STICK WITH YOU LIKE A LEECH FOR SEVERAL DAYS, PROFESSOR! NOW TELL ME SOMETHING ABOUT YOUR WORK!

I'M DOING RESEARCH ON A CERTAIN TROPICAL FEVER WHICH KILLS THOUSANDS EVERY YEAR! THE WORK IS FAR ADVANCED, BUT TERRIBLY EXPENSIVE! FORTUNATELY, THE UNIVERSITY HAS BEEN ADVANCING THE FUNDS I NEED!

I FOUND HIM--FASCINATING! AND AS THE DAY PROGRESSED, MY WORK TOOK A BACKSEAT TO PERSONAL INTEREST--



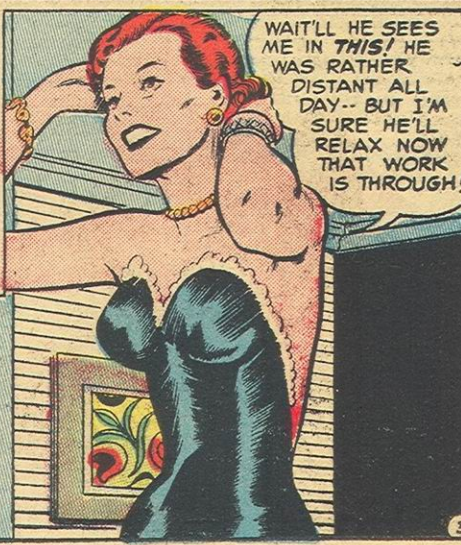
AT NIGHTFALL...

IT'S PART OF MY JOB TO STICK WITH YOU EVENINGS, TOO-- TO GET A LINE ON YOUR PRIVATE LIFE! SINCE THIS IS STRICTLY BUSINESS, I'LL PICK YOU UP AT EIGHT!



WELL, ER-- I GUESS IT WILL BE ALL RIGHT!

I WAS IN SEVENTH HEAVEN! SOMETHING TOLD ME THAT THIS WAS MY CHANCE-- THAT I WAS A GIRL WHO HAD FOUND HER MAN!



WAIT! HE SEES ME IN THIS! HE WAS RATHER DISTANT ALL DAY-- BUT I'M SURE HE'LL RELAX NOW THAT WORK IS THROUGH!

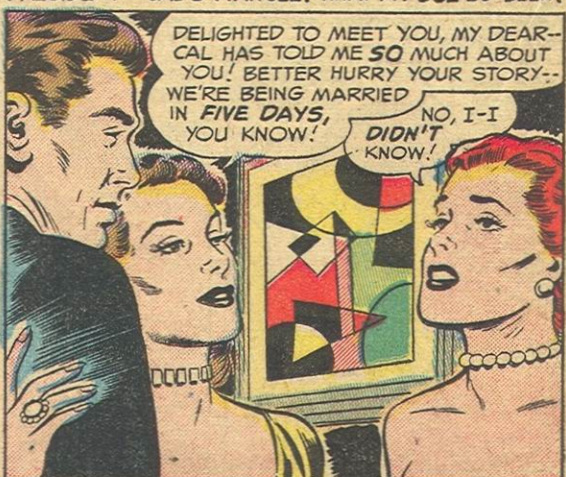
BUBBLING WITH HAPPINESS, I RUSHED TO CAL'S PLACE! BUT THERE, A TERRIBLE SURPRISE WAS IN STORE FOR ME --



OHH!

COME IN, MISS MARCH-- I WANT YOU TO MEET MY FIANCEE!

RITA SANDERS, DAUGHTER OF THE UNIVERSITY'S PRESIDENT--CAL'S FIANCEE! WHAT A FOOL I'D BEEN!



DELIGHTED TO MEET YOU, MY DEAR-- CAL HAS TOLD ME SO MUCH ABOUT YOU! BETTER HURRY YOUR STORY-- WE'RE BEING MARRIED IN FIVE DAYS, YOU KNOW!

NO, I-I DIDN'T KNOW!

CAL HAD MADE RESERVATIONS AT A NIGHTCLUB--AND ALL I COULD DO WAS TAG ALONG! WHEN RITA AND I WERE ALONE IN THE POWDER ROOM--



IS YOUR INTEREST IN CAL PURELY PROFESSIONAL? OR DO ALL REPORTERS WEAR \$100 EVENING GOWNS AND EXPENSIVE PERFUME ON THE JOB?

WHY, ER-- WHAT DO YOU MEAN?

NOTHING, OF COURSE! I'M SURE OF HOW CAL FEELS ABOUT ME-- BESIDES, THAT PRECIOUS RESEARCH OF HIS GOES FORWARD ONLY BECAUSE DADDY IS ADVANCING THE MONEY!

OH-- I SEE!



IT WAS A WRETCHED EVENING! RITA DRAGGED CAL OFF TO DANCE EVERY MOMENT-- WHILE I WATCHED HELPLESSLY! FINALLY-- FEELING STRANGELY ILL --



I-I'LL LEAVE A NOTE WITH THE WAITER-- SAYING I'M SICK AND WENT HOME! I CAN'T HELP IT-- I CAN'T WATCH THEM TOGETHER-- NOT ANOTHER INSTANT!

THEN, INTO THE SMALL HOURS--



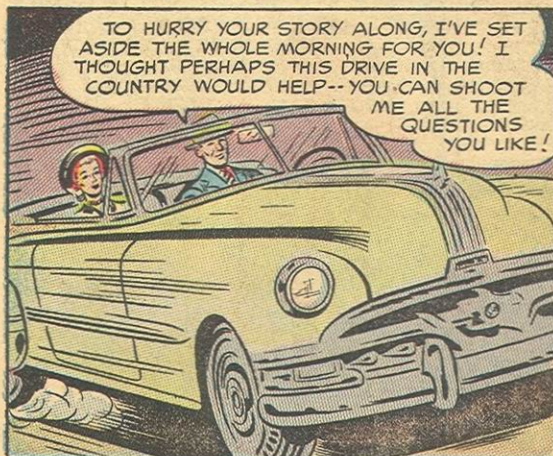
WHAT A FOOL I AM -- TO CRY OVER SOMETHING I CAN'T HAVE! BUT I CAN'T HELP IT-- I LOVE HIM!

I WOKE UP SICK THE NEXT MORNING! BUT AS I CONTEMPLATED TAKING THE DAY OFF, A BOX OF ROSES ARRIVED-- FROM HIM!



THE CARD SAYS HE HOPES I'M BETTER-- AND THAT HE'S LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING ME TODAY!-- I'D BETTER PULL MYSELF TOGETHER! I'VE GOT A JOB TO FINISH-- IN PRECIOUS LITTLE TIME-- BECAUSE FOUR DAYS FROM NOW, HE'LL BE ON HIS HONEYMOON!

WHEN I SAW HIM AGAIN, IT WAS ALL I COULD DO NOT TO BURST INTO TEARS--FOR I KNEW BEYOND DOUBT HOW MUCH I LOVED HIM!



TO HURRY YOUR STORY ALONG, I'VE SET ASIDE THE WHOLE MORNING FOR YOU! I THOUGHT PERHAPS THIS DRIVE IN THE COUNTRY WOULD HELP--YOU CAN SHOOT ME ALL THE QUESTIONS YOU LIKE!

WE PARKED THE CAR AND STROLLED TO A NEAR-BY BROOK! THEN, WITH MY HEART THUMPING, BUT MY VOICE ICY CALM--



ER, ABOUT YOUR FIANCEE-- I MET RITA ABOUT A YEAR AGO, WHEN I FIRST CAME TO THE UNIVERSITY! I'D NEVER MET A GIRL LIKE HER BEFORE-- IN FACT, I'D NEVER HAD TOO MUCH TIME FOR GIRLS! I CAN'T EXPLAIN HOW, BUT SOON WE WERE GOING STEADY-- AND THEN WE WERE ENGAGED!



I KNOW THAT RITA'S A HEAD-STRONG GIRL WITH PLENTY OF FAULTS--BUT I THINK WE'VE GOT A CHANCE FOR HAPPINESS TOGETHER! I DON'T KNOW WHY I'M TELLING YOU ALL THIS--GUESS I SOUND LIKE A CAD--BUT I FIND IT EASY TO TALK TO YOU! NOW I'D LIKE TO ASK YOU SOMETHING, HOW COME A BEAUTIFUL AND INTELLIGENT GIRL LIKE YOU ISN'T MARRIED YET?

I GUESS I'VE BEEN WAITING-- FOR THE RIGHT MAN...

IT WAS AN AWKWARD MOMENT, CHARGED WITH MEANING! THEN, AS WE WALKED SILENTLY BACK TO THE CAR-- TEARS FILMED MY EYES--



YOU NEEDN'T HELP ME! I... BUT I-- WANT TO HELP YOU!



NEITHER OF US PLANNED WHAT HAPPENED THEN--BUT WE COULDN'T STOP IT! WE MOVED CLOSER-- AND HE CRUSHED ME TO HIM! WHAT HAD BEEN A SMOLDERING FIRE BURST INTO FLAME-- OUR LOVE!



BUT THEN HE BROKE AWAY--

NO, IT'S NOT RIGHT-- I SHOULDN'T HAVE DONE THAT! CALL ME A WEAKLING IF YOU LIKE-- BUT RITA AND I ARE GOING TO BE MARRIED BEFORE THE WEEK IS OUT! I CAN'T BACK OUT NOW-- EVEN THOUGH I'VE FOUND SOMETHING I'VE NEVER KNOWN!



WHAT COULD I DO-- EXCEPT TRY TO PICK UP THE PIECES OF MY BROKEN HEART? MY ASSIGNMENT WAS OVER, OF COURSE-- SOMEHOW I'D MAKE A STORY OUT OF WHAT I ALREADY HAD! FOR TWO DAYS I STRUGGLED WITH IT, GROWING SICKER BY THE MINUTE-- AND MORE TEARFUL--

OH, CAL-- MY DARLING--



AT LAST, THE MORNING OF THE WEDDING-- WHICH I HADN'T PLANNED TO ATTEND! BUT WHEN MY BOSS PHONED ANGRILY--



YOU CRAZY? DO A FEATURE STORY ON A GUY WHO'S GETTING MARRIED AND NOT ATTEND? I'M SENDING A PHOTO OVER NOW-- AND YOU'D BETTER GET ME COMPLETE COVERAGE OR YOU'RE FIRED!

OKAY, CHIEF-- OKAY!



RITA SEEMED PLEASED--

PICTURES FOR YOUR STORY? WHY, CERTAINLY! AS I ALWAYS SAY, SOME GIRLS CAN HAVE CAREERS-- GIVE ME A MAN ANYTIME!



THEN, THE WORST OF ALL-- COMING FACE TO FACE WITH CAL! MY SENSES WERE REELING--

LAURA! WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK SO--

OH, CAL, I-I-- OH-HHH!

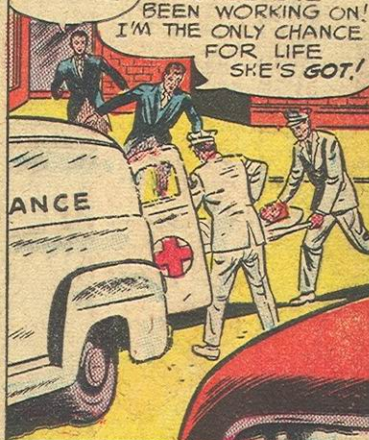


GOOD HEAVENS-- SHE'S COLLAPSED! HER FOREHEAD-- IT'S BURNING! AND THOSE DRY LIPS AND FLUSHED FACE-- THE SYMPTOMS LOOK LIKE-- GET AN AMBULANCE! QUICK!



BUT CAL-- YOU CAN'T GO! THE CEREMONY'S DUE ANY MINUTE!

HANG IT! SOME-- HOW THAT GIRL'S COME DOWN WITH GUIANA FEVER-- THE DISEASE I'VE BEEN WORKING ON! I'M THE ONLY CHANCE FOR LIFE SHE'S GOT!



I KNEW IT! THIS SCRATCH ON HER HAND-- RED AND INFLAMED! SOMEHOW SHE MUST'VE BEEN NIPPED BY ONE OF MY TEST ANIMALS! CALL MY HOME-- GET VIAL 265B FROM THE LAB! IT'S A LONG SHOT-- BUT I'VE GOT TO TAKE IT!



**BUT JUST AS THE SERUM
ARRIVED--SO DID RITA!**

ARE YOU
INSANE?
ALL THE
GUESTS
ARE WAITING!

GOOD HEAVENS,
RITA--DON'T YOU
REALIZE THIS
GIRL'S LIFE IS
AT STAKE?



**SO WHAT? YOU'VE
TOLD ME A
THOUSAND TIMES,
ALWAYS YAMMERING
ABOUT YOUR
STUPID RESEARCH,
THAT THERE'S
NO CURE FOR
GUIANA FEVER!
NOW COME ON--
WE CAN'T
DISRUPT OUR
PLANS!**

CAN'T WE? THIS
GIRL'S LIFE IS
TEN THOUSAND
TIMES MORE
IMPORTANT
THAN ALL
THAT NONSENSE!
AND THERE IS A
CHANCE TO SAVE
HER--WITH THIS
SERUM! IT'S
WORKED WITH
**ANIMALS--IT'S GOT
TO WORK WITH HER!**



**YOU'RE--MAD! IF YOU FAIL,
YOU CAN BE ARRESTED FOR
HOMICIDE! WHAT FOR?
BECAUSE OF THAT CHEAP,
MAN-HUNTING--**

**YES!
BECAUSE I LOVE
HER--SOMETHING
YOU WOULDN'T
UNDERSTAND! NOW
GET OUT--I'VE GOT
WORK TO DO!**



OKAY, YOU'RE ASKING
FOR IT! I'LL HAVE YOU
EXPULSED FROM EVERY
MEDICAL--

THERE! IT'S--DONE! NOW
ALL I CAN DO IS WAIT--
AND **PRAY!**

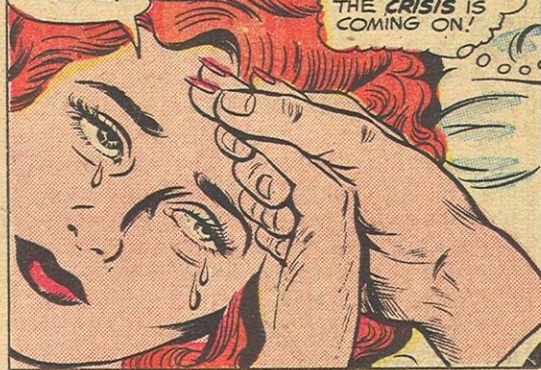


**AS THE PAIN-LADEN
HOURS PASSED--**

CAL? WHERE--ARE
YOU, DARLING? SPEAK--
TO ME!

I'M RIGHT HERE,
SWEETHEART!

SHE'S DELIRIOUS!
THE **CRISIS** IS
COMING ON!



THE COMA--ALREADY
THREE HOURS! SHE'S
**GOT TO COME OUT
OF IT--SHE MUST!**

**CAL!
HELP ME--**



AT THE SOUND OF MY VOICE--

**LAURA! YOU...YOU'VE COME
OUT OF IT! YOU'RE GOING
TO LIVE! OH,
ANGEL--**

**HOLD ME,
SWEETHEART--
HOLD ME!**



**OUR WEDDING WAS QUITE A
BIG ONE! AFTER ALL, CAL WAS
UP FOR A NOBEL PRIZE IN
MEDICINE!**



**BUT FRANKLY, HIS PRIZE PATIENT IS
STILL DELIRIOUS--WITH HAPPINESS!**

The ART of FLATTERY

HANK AND ELAINE paused in the shelter of the elaborate entrance to the Morris mansion. Without a word, they moved towards each other, their lips meeting and clinging in a kiss that was almost desperate.

"Come on, darling, or we'll be late. The old man gets furious when people are late," Hank said, reluctantly letting Elaine go.

"Just...just one more minute," Elaine pleaded. "Hank, I've got a plan!"

"Angel, don't be nervous. You're just meeting my family, that's all! And if they're so blind and stuffy that they can't see how lovely and wonderful you are, well...I can!"

Fear flooded Elaine's heart as she steadied herself for the ordeal ahead. Hank's father, old Mr. Morris, was a tyrant and a die-hard! The wealthiest man in the county, he had always been notorious for his fanatical independence, his desire to run every show himself! She knew he wouldn't approve of her! How could he, when he had not been the one to select her for his only son?

"I've been reading up on etiquette and...and...human relations," Elaine told Hank. "And I've decided to try a special approach with your father. Professor Kurz says that every man's vanity can be appealed to by subtle flattery...that even the most unfriendly people can be broken down if you approach them properly!"

"So you mean to try to wheedle dad!" Hank grinned. "Darling, I wouldn't! Dad's a wise old baby...knows every trick in the bag!"

"I'm going to be subtle," Elaine said. "Before he knows it, he'll be adoring me!"

Despite the assurance in her words, there was a definite uncertainty in her feelings as Elaine, gripping Hank's

hand, followed the poker-stiff back of the butler towards the drawing room. At the far end of the imposing room, miles away it seemed, a distinguished couple rose to greet them.

"This is Elaine," Hank said, making his presentation proudly.

In spite of her velvet and pearls, Mrs. Morris had a motherly glint in her kind eyes as she said, "How do you do, my dear?"

Mr. Morris was made of sterner stuff, however. "So this is the young lady you think you want to marry!" His tone of indulgence, as though he were speaking to a spoiled child, was more than Elaine's taut nerves could bear.

Gone was her veneer of poise and forgotten her clever, wheedling plan as she faced the grim old man with flashing eyes. "Not 'think', sir! We know! Hank and I love each other, you see! Oh, I know all about you...as who doesn't? No one in your business or your family can make a decision without you! In fact, you prefer that the decision be yours to begin with! But has it ever occurred to you, Mr. Morris, that other people have minds of their own, as well?"

Elaine was trembling as Hank took her hand. "She means, dad, that we're both grown up enough to think and act for ourselves...and we are and we plan to!"

The old man looked keenly at Elaine. "Even if it means my cutting Hank off without a cent?"

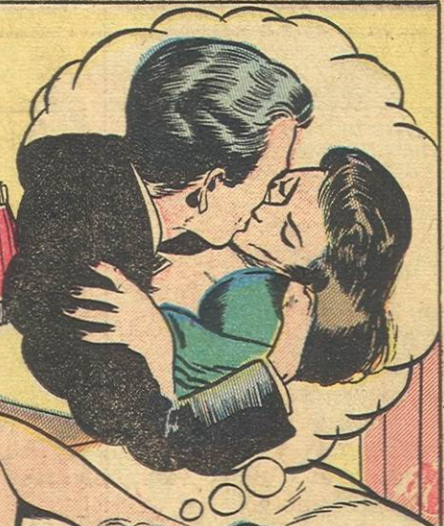
"I'll answer that, dad! Yes, even under those conditions!"

The old man looked at Elaine again. Then, wonder of wonders, he laughed, long and heartily. "Not many people stand up to me in a fight, my dear," he said. "I respect those that do...and win! You're a fine girl!"

Hank hugged Elaine tightly. "You and your flattery!" he said.

[IF ANYONE EVER TELLS YOU THAT **DREAMS** HAVE NO MEANING, DON'T BELIEVE IT! I KNOW, FOR **MY DREAMS** LED TO...

A RUN-AWAY ROMANCE



IT WAS ALL SO VERY ORDINARY ... **AT FIRST!** SETTING THE ALARM, I'D GONE TO SLEEP, DREAMING OF LOVE AND ROMANCE...

ART GATES

... AND WAKING ON MONDAY TO THE MOST GLORIOUS MORNING I'D EVER SEEN! IT WAS SO BEAUTIFUL THAT I SEEMED TO BE DREAMING STILL ...



WITH A STRONG FEELING OF IRRITATION, I REMEMBERED MY BOSS'S PARTING WORDS TO ME ON FRIDAY...



REMEMBER, MISS JEFFERY, WE'RE EXPECTING AN IMPORTANT OUT-OF-TOWN CLIENT ON MONDAY, SO **BE ON YOUR TOES!**

YES, SIR!

[FOR THREE YEARS, I'D BEEN ON MY TOES AT THAT EVER-LASTING JOB! I'D NEVER BEEN LATE OR MISSED A DAY'S WORK! AND NOW THERE WAS SPRING IN THE AIR ... AND MISCHIEF IN MY MIND!]

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF I **TOOK THE DAY OFF?** I'LL NEVER KNOW...UNTIL I TRY IT!



JUST ONE DAY... TO HAVE FUN IN... TO DO AS I PLEASED! INSTEAD OF MY USUAL HASTY BREAKFAST, I HAD WAFFLES AND HONEY... AND THEN...

OF COURSE, I FELT LIKE A CRIMINAL FOR A WHILE, CERTAIN THAT MY BOSS WOULD FIND ME SOMEHOW! BUT I SOON RELAXED...

HAVING TAKEN THE PLUNGE, I WENT THE WHOLE WAY... TO THE TUNE OF THE MOST EXTRAVAGANT, DARLING NOTHING OF A HAT!

I'M IN THE MOOD FOR A NEW HAIR-DO AND PEARLY PINK NAIL POLISH... **HERE GOES!**

FRANZ SALON

OH, WHAT A PRETTY COLOR! WHAT'S THE NAME OF IT?

BREATH OF ROMANCE, MISS!

OH, THAT'S DELIGHTFUL!

ZEE'S ONE EES CALLED "SPREENG-TIME" MAM'-SELLE! EET SEEMS TO SUIT YOUR MOOD!

THAT LITTLE HAT COST THIRTY-FIVE DOLLARS, BUT IT TURNED NOT ONLY MY HEAD... BUT THE HEADS OF MANY A GENTLEMEN ON FIFTH AVENUE!

LUNCH IN THE PARK... WHAT A DREAMY IDEA...

BY THIS TIME, I WAS ENJOYING MY ESCAPE SO MUCH THAT I'D LOST ALL FEELINGS OF GUILT!

WHY DIDN'T I EVER DO THIS BEFORE? MMM... I THINK I'LL START WITH AN ENORMOUS FRESH FRUIT CUP...

BUT BEFORE I COULD ORDER...

WOULD YOU MIND SHARING YOUR TABLE?... WE'RE CROWDED TODAY...

NOT AT ALL... IT'S QUITE ALL RIGHT!

I'D EXPECTED A PLUMP MATRON TO JOIN ME, I SUPPOSE, FOR WHEN I LOOKED UP AND SAW MY COMPANION, I'M AFRAID I GASPED... OUT LOUD!

YOU'RE SURE YOU DON'T MIND?

OH... NO!

FOR NO REASON, I WAS
SUDDENLY GLAD... ELATED
...OVER MY NEW HAT! IT
DID SEEM TO BE MAKING
AN IMPRESSION...

MAY I PRESENT MYSELF?
I'M HAL BURDEN... AND IF
YOU DON'T MIND, I'D LIKE TO
ORDER OUR LUNCH?

I'M BETTY
LOU JEFFRY.

I GUESS NEITHER OF US MADE
MUCH SENSE, FOR HE KEPT
STARING AT ME WHILE TALKING
TO THE WAITER, AND I... JUST
KEPT STARING AT HIM!

TWO FRUIT CUPS,
PLEASE, AND
SOME SALAD...

I'M AFRAID
ALL THIS
ISN'T
EXACTLY...
PROPER!

WHEN HE SMILED, I KNEW HE WAS NOT
ONLY HANDSOME, BUT NICE! AND
BESIDES, THAT LITTLE SPIRIT OF
MISCHIEF WAS STILL WITH ME!

JUST PRETEND I'M A
COUSIN FROM THE
STICKS AND YOU'RE
SHOWING ME THE
BIG CITY! HOW'S
THAT?

THAT SOUNDS
VERY CORRECT
MR. BURDEN!

LUNCH WAS DELIGHTFUL!
AFTERWARDS, HE EXCUSED
HIMSELF TO MAKE A PHONE
CALL WHILE I WAITED FOR
HIM... AND WORRIED...

MAYBE I'M NOT BEING VERY
CLEVER... BECOMING FRIENDLY
WITH A STRANGER...
PROMISING TO SPEND THE DAY
WITH HIM... IT COULD BE
DANGEROUS!

HESITATING,
I TRIED TO
THINK OF
SOME WAY
TO GET OUT
OF IT, BUT
WHEN I SAW
HIM SMILING
AT ME...

ALL CLEAR
NOW... LET'S
GO!

LET'S GO!

AT THE
LOOK IN
HIS EYES,
I CAUGHT
MY BREATH!

DON'T MOVE FOR A
MINUTE! YOU LOOK
SO LOVELY AGAINST
THOSE FLOWERS
...OR IS IT THE
OTHER WAY
'ROUND?

COME ON,
"COUSIN."
THE DAY'S
GROWING
SHORTER!

AS WE
STARTED TO
CROSS THE
ROAD, HE TOOK
MY HAND AND
MY FINGERS
SEEMED TO
CURL IN-
STINCTIVELY
AROUND HIS!

I'LL SEE
THAT YOU
GET ACROSS
SAFELY!

HIS TOUCH
...LIKE AN
ELECTRIC
SHOCK...

TAVERN
ON THE
HILL

FIRST STOP... THE ZOO! I THINK WE HAD MORE FUN THAN THE CHILDREN, WHO CROWDED AGAINST US AT THE RAILING!

IT'S NICE TO HEAR YOU LAUGH, BETTY LOU! YOU'RE **REALLY** HAVING A GOOD TIME, AREN'T YOU?

AREN'T YOU?

SHE WAS SILENT FOR A MOMENT! THEN MY HEART BEGAN TO THROB AS HE PUT HIS ARM AROUND MY WAIST...

I'LL ANSWER THAT IN CALMER SURROUNDINGS! HERE, LET ME HELP YOU OUT OF THIS CROWD!

NEXT STOP... THE LAKE, SHIMMERINGLY INVITING AND GOLDEN-BLUE IN THE SUNSHINE!

STEADY NOW... JUST LEAN ON ME, BETTY LOU!

I'M NOT THE LEAST BIT NERVOUS, HAL!

BUT I WAS NERVOUS TENSE WITH THE EXPECTATION OF THE THINGS HE MIGHT SAY... DID SAY...

AM I HAVING A GOOD TIME, BETTY LOU? I'M HAVING THE MOST **WONDERFUL** TIME I'VE EVER KNOWN ...WITH YOU!

IT'S SO NICE TO HEAR YOU SAY THAT!

THE ROWBOAT CHOSE THAT TIME TO DRIFT INTO A TINY INLET, ANCHORING ITSELF SHAKILY AGAINST SOME ROCKS...

HERE, LET ME STEADY IT...DON'T MOVE, BETTY LOU...

I SAW HIS LAUGHING EYES, HIS SMILE... AND THEN HIS LIPS GREW TENDER AS HE LEANED OVER ME... AND MY HEART RACED TO MEET HIS...

THOUGH I WAS TREMBLING WITH EAGER HAPPINESS, I KEPT REMINDING MYSELF THAT HE WAS A STRANGER...REALLY SOMEONE I HAD PICKED UP...

YOU'RE **NOT** BEHAVING LIKE "COUSIN HAL"...REMEMBER?

I'M TERRIBLY SORRY! I'LL TRY NOT TO LET IT HAPPEN AGAIN!

NEXT STOP... THE MUSEUM OF ART!
HAL WAS MORE GUARDED IN HIS MANNER, NOW, TRYING TO BE IMPERSONAL BUT FRIENDLY!



IS THERE ANYTHING SPECIAL YOU'D LIKE TO SEE HERE?

ISN'T THERE AN ANCIENT EGYPTIAN COURT HERE—ABOUTS?

THE COURT WAS DIGNIFIED AND STILL, AS THOUGH DREAMING OF ANCIENT DAYS, OUT OF SELF-CONSCIOUSNESS, I BEGAN TO ACT LIKE A SCHOOL TEACHER...

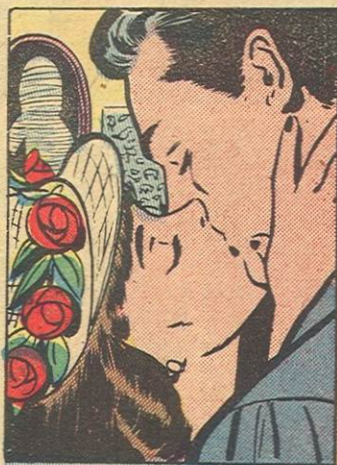
JUST LOOK AT THAT STATUE, HAL!

HOW CAN I, WHEN I'M LOOKING AT ... YOU?

I KNEW I SHOULD RUN... BUT I DIDN'T WANT TO!



I WANTED HIM TO KISS ME... OVER AND OVER AGAIN... HIS MOUTH WARM AND DEMANDING, BRINGING MY LIPS TO LIFE AGAINST HIS!



A LOUD GONG, SOUNDING IN THE VAST MUSEUM HALLS, BROUGHT ME BACK TO REALITY... AND A SENSE OF EMBARRASSMENT AT MY BEHAVIOUR...

THAT... THAT'S THE CLOSING BELL! I GUESS OUR DAY IS OVER!



OVER?

I THINK CINDERELLA MUST HAVE FELT AS I DID WHEN THE MIDNIGHT BELL TURNED HER SATINS TO RAGS... AND HER HOPES TO ASHES! IT WAS TIME TO GO...

WHAT DO YOU MEAN... 'OVER'? I'M GOING TO SEE MORE OF YOU, BETTY LOU... LOTS MORE!



NO, HAL, I'M AFRAID NOT!

LET'S FACE FACTS, HAL... WE DON'T REALLY KNOW EACH OTHER! HOW COULD WE RESPECT EACH OTHER, HAVING MET AS WE DID? IT'S BEEN LOVELY... BUT IT CAN'T HAPPEN AGAIN!



I WOULD NOT LET HIM SEE ME HOME, THOUGH I HAD TO FIGHT AGAINST MY OWN WISHES! AND THERE WASN'T MUCH CONSOLATION IN MY THOUGHTS...

I KNOW I DID THE RIGHT THING! BASICALLY, I AM PROPER! AND OUR MEETING... WASN'T!



TUESDAY MORNING WAS GRAY, GLOOMY, WITH WILD RAINS SWEEPING DOWN... TO MATCH MY MOOD EXACTLY!

SOMEHOW... I FEEL AS THOUGH I'D LOST SOMETHING... SOMEONE! WHERE IS HE NOW? STILL IN THE CITY... OR ON THE WAY BACK TO WHERE HE CAME FROM...?



OH, WELL, BACK TO THE WORK-ADAY WORLD AND THE OLD ROUTINE! I MIGHT HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF NEVER TO HAVE LEFT IT!

I'M SORRY, ABOUT YES-TERDAY, BUT...

IT TURNED OUT ALL RIGHT, MISS JEFFRY! THE CLIENT CANCELLED AND IS COMING IN THIS MORNING, INSTEAD!



THE BOSS'S DOOR OPENED... AND...

AND HERE HE IS! MISS JEFFRY, THIS IS THE CLIENT I WAS EXPECTING... MR. HAL BURDEN!



HAL'S FACE HAD BEEN DRAWN AND TENSE WHEN HE CAME IN... AND NOW IT WAS LIT BY THE WONDERFUL SMILE I REMEMBERED!

HOW DO YOU DO? WOULD YOU SAY THIS IS A PROPER INTRODUCTION, MISS JEFFRY?

YES... YES, I WOULD, MR. BURDEN!



THIS I DO NOT UNDERSTAND!



WHO CARED WHAT THE BOSS UNDERSTOOD! HAL KISSED ME... THE RAIN STOPPED... THE SUN CAME FORTH IN A BLAZE OF GLORY AGAIN... AND THE PROMISE OF SPRING IN MY HEART WAS FOREVER FULFILLED!



For recommended reading...



AMERICAN COMICS GROUP!



They're the terrific ten...
THE GREATEST GROUP
of HEADLINE HITS IN HISTORY!



READ THEM ALL
...REGULARLY...
Read **AMERICAN!**

BOYS, GIRLS, MEN, WOMEN! The World Is On FIRE Serve The LORD and You Can Have These Prizes!

We will send you the wonderful prizes pictured on this page or dozens of others, such as rifles, jewelry, basketballs, silverware, home appliances, watches... all WITHOUT ONE PENNY OF COST. Crime, sin, graft, wars are the greatest they have ever been. Our leaders say a reawakening of Christianity is needed to save us. You can do your share by spreading the gospel into every home in your community. Merely show friends and neighbors inspiring, beautiful Religious Wall Motto plaques. Many buy six or more to hang in every room. An amazing value only 35c sell on sight. Secure big, cash commissions or exciting prizes for selling just ONE SET of 24 Mottos. Big Prize catalog sent FREE! Serve the LORD and earn prizes you want.



Joe DeMaggio Baseball Set



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HERE'S HOW YOU GET YOUR PRIZES

Rush your name and address on coupon and we ship AT ONCE PREPAID your first set of 24 big size, 9x11, richly decorated Mottos ON TRUST. When you have sold the 24 Mottos, send the \$8.40 you have collected and you can secure your choice of many wonderful prizes. If you prefer to EARN MONEY, send \$6.00 and keep \$7.40. Hurry! send today for 24 Mottos ON TRUST and big PRIZE CATALOG FREE.



Gabby Hayes Fishing Kit



Baby Doll

The FUN man, Dept. X-129, 4545 N. Clark St., Chicago 40, Ill. **FREE BIG PRIZE CATALOG**

Please rush to me on credit 24 Religious Wall Mottos, to sell at 35c each. Also include big Prize Catalog FREE. I will remit amount asked within 30 days, select a prize or keep cash commission, as explained under description of prize in big Prize Catalog. PRINT BELOW.

NAME _____ AGE _____

STREET or RFD _____

TOWN _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

Save 1 cent filling in, pasting and mailing this coupon on a 2c Post Card today.

SEND NO MONEY... We Trust You

I VOWED I WOULD LOVE HIM FOREVER, AND THEN I LEARNED...

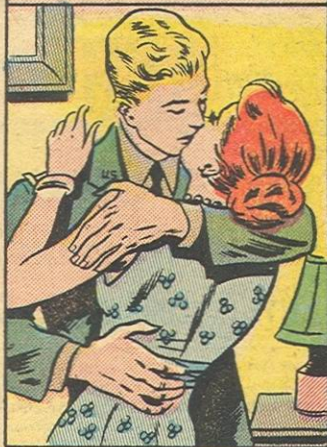
DARLING, DARLING
...THERE'LL NEVER
BE ANOTHER
GIRL FOR ME!

I'LL LOVE YOU
ALWAYS, PHILIP...
NO ONE BUT
YOU!

Forever is too Long

IN HIS ARMS, I WAS
IN HEAVEN, LOST
IN THE WONDER OF
HIS EMBRACE...

... HIS KISSES THAT TOOK MY
LIPS AND HEART BY STORM...



... THE WILD RAPTURE OF THE
ETERNAL LOVE WE HAD SWORN!



BUT OUR VOWS WERE DOOMED BY THE TRAGIC FATE THAT HAD
STRUCK HIM DOWN BEFORE THE WAR ENDED...



WHY DID IT
HAVE TO BE
YOU, PHILIP?
WHY... WHY
DID YOU HAVE
TO LEAVE ME?

... LEAVING ME WITH... THE MEMORY
OF OUR LOVE!

THOUGH PHILIP WAS DEAD, MY HEART HAD REMAINED UNCHANGED! I WOULD KEEP MY PROMISES TO HIM... **THROUGH ETERNITY!**



YES... AFTER THE LONELY YEARS, A LETTER HAD COME FROM ENGLAND... FROM A MAN WHO HAD KNOWN PHILIP...



HE WOULD BE HERE... TONIGHT... BRINGING ME PHILIP'S THINGS... A MESSAGE OF FIDELITY AFTER DEATH!



PUNCTUAL TO THE MINUTE, LUKE MANNERS ARRIVED! I FELT A TWINGE OF JEALOUSY... HE HAD KNOWN PHILIP... SPOKEN WITH HIM... BEEN HIS FRIEND...



BUT FIRST, I HAD TO TOUCH THE THINGS THAT PHILIP HAD TOUCHED... A BOOK... A SNAPSHOT... A HALF-FINISHED LETTER TO ME...



WITH A START, I RECALLED MY VISITOR! HAD HE BEEN WATCHING ME ALL THIS WHILE... WONDERING...



WANTED TO TALK ABOUT PHILIP, NOT MYSELF! BUT LUKE MANNERS WAS STRANGELY INSISTENT...



WITHOUT ARGUMENT, HE STARTED TO LEAVE -- AND THEN I REMEMBERED HE'D BEEN PHILIP'S FRIEND ... HE COULD TELL ME THINGS I WANTED TO KNOW...

WELL... IF YOU WON'T...

WAIT! I... I'M SORRY ' I'VE CHANGED MY MIND '

SINCE PHILIP'S DEATH, I'D NEVER GONE OUT WITH ANOTHER MAN ... NEVER LOOKED AT ONE! BUT THIS MAN WAS DIFFERENT...

TELL ME, DID PHILIP EVER...

IF YOU DON'T MIND, EVE, I'D RATHER TALK ABOUT **YOU!** THE WAY YOU STRIVE TO KEEP HIS MEMORY ALIVE -- YOU'RE AN **UNUSUAL** GIRL!

THERE WAS A CHALLENGE, ALMOST A CRITICISM IN HIS VOICE...

UNUSUAL? **HOW?**

DON'T THINK ME CRUEL, EVE, BUT... PHIL'S **DEAD!**

I WANT TO KNOW HOW MY DARLING LOOKED... THE THINGS HE SAID... THE PLACES HE VISITED IN ENGLAND...



I DIDN'T HAVE TO EXPLAIN, BUT THE WORDS CAME POURING FROM ME...

SUDDENLY, HE PUT HIS HAND OVER MY MINE AND I STARTED AS THOUGH I'D BEEN STUNG...

NOT FOR **ME!** I **LOVED** PHILIP... I **STILL** LOVE HIM! NO LIVING MAN IS WORTH THE MEMORY OF HIM!

NO ONE CAN TAKE PHILIP'S PLACE. **EVER!**

ARE YOU... **QUITE SURE?**

I FREED MY HAND AND STOOD UP, MAKING MY MEANING CLEAR!

YES, I'M SURE! THERE WILL **NEVER** BE ANY-ONE ELSE! SHALL WE GO NOW?

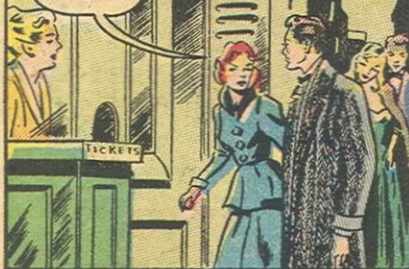
IF YOU **INSIST!**



ALTHOUGH THAT EVENING HAD ENDED ON A STRAINED NOTE, LUKE WAS A PERSUASIVE PERSON! I FOUND MYSELF GOING OUT WITH HIM...

I HAVEN'T BEEN TO THE THEATRE SINCE PHIL---

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF GETTING... A NEW CALENDAR?



ALL DURING THE FIRST ACT, I WONDERED WHAT LUKE HAD MEANT! DURING INTERMISSION, HE EXPLAINED!

YOU DATE EVERYTHING "BEFORE PHILIP" AND "AFTER PHILIP"! BE REALISTIC, EVE! YOU'RE YOUNG, LOVELY... YOU NEED LOVE!

NO! YOU'RE WRONG, LUKE!

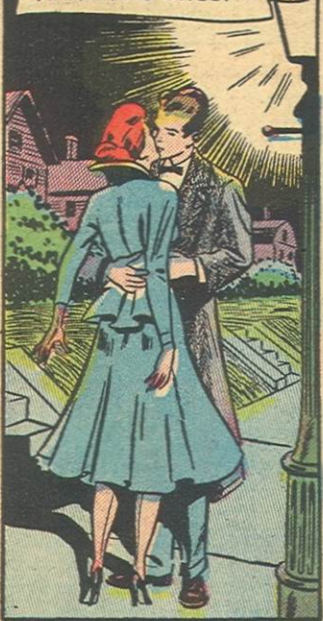


IMPATIENTLY, ALMOST ANGRILY, HE CAUGHT ME IN HIS ARMS AND DREW ME CLOSE! I WAS SHOCKED, FRIGHTENED...

STOP TREMBLING! IT'S PERFECTLY ALL RIGHT!



HE KISSED ME, AND I COULD FEEL MYSELF SHUDDERING AT THE ICY SHOCK OF HIS TOUCH! BUT HIS LIPS WERE WARM AND SWEET...



...AND SUDDENLY MY FEAR MELTED AWAY, AND I CLUNG TO HIM, GLORIOUSLY ALIVE IN HIS ARMS...



WE WALKED HOME AFTER THE PLAY! IT WAS A BRISK, CLEAR NIGHT THAT SENT MY PULSES RACING... OR PERHAPS IT WAS LUKE!

WHY ARE YOU SO SURE YOU'LL NEVER LOVE AGAIN? HAVE YOU TRIED?

PLEASE LUKE... I'D RATHER NOT DISCUSS--



LUKE... NO... I COULDN'T---



...GLORIOUSLY EAGER FOR... LOVE!



DARLING... KISS ME AGAIN!

IN ONE BRIEF INSTANT, LIKE THE PRINCESS IN THE FAIRY TALE, I HAD COME ALIVE! AFTER LUKE HAD KISSED ME GOODNIGHT...

MY HEART... IT'S BEATING SO FAST... I DON'T KNOW WHETHER TO LAUGH OR CRY...

THE ANSWER CAME LIKE A SUDDEN ACCUSATION! WAS I MISTAKEN? WAS PHILIP LOOKING AT ME... IN REPROOF?

IT'S... IT'S AS THOUGH HE KNOWS I'VE BROKEN MY PROMISE TO HIM... AS THOUGH I'VE... HURT HIM --

MY MOOD CHANGED AS GUILT AND SELF-REPROACH SWEPT OVER ME...

PHILIP DARLING, I WAS **WRONG... DISLOYAL!** I WAS WEAK TO BE SWEPT AWAY LIKE THAT! BUT BELIEVE ME... **BELIEVE ME...** I'LL SET THINGS RIGHT!

ALL THAT NIGHT, WITH PHILIP'S PICTURE BEFORE ME, I TORTURED MYSELF WITH MEMORIES, DESPIISING MY FAITHLESSNESS! IN THE MORNING...

HELLO, DARLING! DID YOU DREAM OF ME?

DON'T... DON'T TOUCH ME, LUKE! THERE'S SOMETHING I HAVE TO TELL YOU!

AND SO, I TOLD HIM... TOLD HIM I WAS ASHAMED OF OUR KISSES... ASHAMED OF WHAT I HAD DONE TO PHILIP!

DON'T YOU SEE, LUKE... I **BROKE FAITH WITH HIM!** I CAN'T LIVE WITH THE IDEA THAT YOU AND I...

EVE!

WHEN I FINALLY MADE HIM BELIEVE ME, HE WAS ANGRY, RAGING AT ME STORMILY, ARGUING...

YOU **FOOL!** YOU'RE DEDICATING YOURSELF TO SOMETHING THAT'S **OVER!**

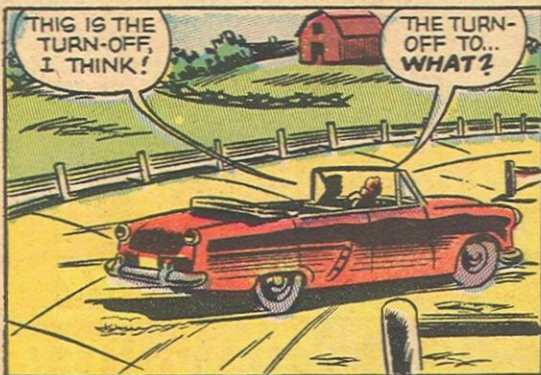
FOR ME, IT WILL **NEVER** BE OVER! I... I'M SORRY, LUKE!

I THOUGHT HE WOULD SHAKE ME, STRIKE ME! INSTEAD, HIS MANNER BECAME CURIOUSLY CALM AS HE OPENED THE DOOR...

ALL RIGHT, THEN! BUT BEFORE YOU GO BACK... TO HIM... WILL YOU SPEND JUST **ONE HOUR** WITH ME? I PROMISE NOT TO TOUCH YOU, EVE!

ONE... HOUR...?

CRIMLY, WITHOUT OFFERING AN EXPLANATION, HE HELPED ME INTO THE CAR! FOR A SHORT WHILE, WE DROVE THROUGH THE COUNTRYSIDE! THEN...



THIS IS THE TURN-OFF, I THINK!

THE TURN-OFF TO... WHAT?

WE STOPPED AT A SMALL HOUSE WHICH SEEMED DESERTED, IT WAS SO NEGLECTED! BUT LUKE'S LOUD KNOCK BROUGHT SOMEONE TO THE DOOR...



LUKE! IS IT YOU, LUKE?

YES, AUNT! MAY WE COME IN?

WHAT A WEIRD, DINGY ROOM! IT SEEMED TO BELONG TO SOME LONG-AGO TIME... AS DID THE OWNER OF THE ROOM!



EVE, THIS IS MY AUNT BETH!

HOW'D YOU DO, MY DEAR! IT'S SO SELDOM I HAVE VISITORS... BUT DO SIT DOWN!

I REALIZED THEN THAT THE OLD LADY WAS... ECCENTRIC! WHEN SHE TALKED, I FELT CHILLS... FOR SHE WAS LIVING IN THE PAST!



DID YOU TIE UP YOUR HORSES PROPERLY, LUKE? OR DID YOU COME IN ONE OF THOSE NEW ELECTRIC RUNABOUTS? SO DANGEROUS, I ALWAYS THINK---

I WAS GLAD TO BE OUT OF THERE, AWAY FROM THAT DEPRESSING UN-REALITY... RELIEVED WHEN LUKE MADE OUR GOODBYES...



SHE'S HARMLESS, POOR DEAR! SHE SIMPLY CLINGS TO WHAT'S DEAD AND BURIED AND SHE'S PERFECTLY HAPPY! ONLY... SHE'S NOT AMONG... THE LIVING!



WHAT WAS ALL HE SAID! THEN, WE WERE BACK AT MY HOUSE...

LUKE... WAIT... NO... I'M SO CONFUSED...

...WITHIN THE HOUR, EVE! I SUPPOSE THIS IS GOODBYE FOR US...?

WITHIN THE HOUR, I HAD LEARNED MY LESSON! I HAD BEEN LIKE THAT OLD LADY, LIVING AWAY FROM LIFE... FROM LOVE! AS I WENT WILLINGLY INTO LUKE'S ARMS, I THOUGHT...



...PERHAPS PHILIP SENT HIM TO ME... THEN... AS LUKE KISSED ME, I STOPPED THINKING!

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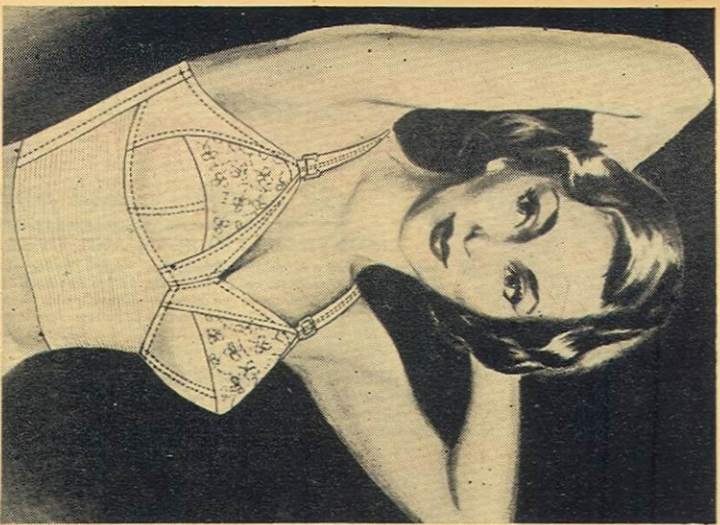
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